

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of magnetic resonance imaging of blood vessel walls, comprising
administering a series of DIR preparation pulse modules at a repetition interval short enough that at least two DIR preparation pulse modules ~~generally~~ occur within ~~each RR~~ a repetition time interval for a slice;
in the interval between each DIR preparation pulse module, acquiring image data for a plurality of slices; and
repeating the data acquisition across ~~sufficient RR intervals~~ a plurality of repetition time intervals for a slice to acquire images for the plurality of slices.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the repetition interval for the administered DIR modules is less than about 500 msec.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the inversion time TI_0 is less than about 190 msec.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein image data acquisition extends across an interval that begins before and ends after the inversion time TI_0 .
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein image data acquisition occurs in an interval when longitudinal magnetization of blood is reduced to at least 10 percent of full longitudinal magnetization.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein image data acquisition is cardiac triggered.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein image data acquisition is untriggered.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the DIR modules comprises an inversion pulse followed by a reinversion pulse, and the reinversion pulse reinverts a plurality of the slices to be imaged.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the DIR modules consist of an inversion pulse followed by reinversion pulse that reinverts all of the slices to be imaged.